

PH-37
HB:ht

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH
Olney, Philadelphia
Pennsylvania

PH-37

HB:ht

1

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH, Olney, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

St. Alban's Church is a stone structure which appears to be in good condition. Since the church submitted no Church Self-Study Form, there is no self-evaluation of the church properties.

THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

Philadelphia is divided into tracts for the purposes of the United States Census Bureau. St. Alban's Church is located in Census Tract PH-42B. This tract, together with seven contiguous tracts, have been arbitrarily assigned as the parish area. The following table gives information concerning the population of these census tracts, the number of Episcopalians in each tract, and the number of persons associated with St. Alban's Church in each tract:

CENSUS TRACT	TOTAL POP.	TOTAL EPIS.	% OF POP. EPIS.	TOTAL PARISH MEMB.	% EPIS. MEMB.	% PARISH MEMB.
42-B	10,381	131	1.3	19	14.6	12.6
42-A	6,082	107	1.8	30	28.0	20.0
42-C	4,693	90	1.9	16	18.2	10.6
42-D	2,268	22	1.0	1	4.5	0.7
42-E	7,168	133	1.8	4	3.1	2.6
50-A	4,763	31	0.7	1	3.4	0.7
50-B	2,563	30	1.2	0	----	----
50-O	2,411	36	1.5	0	----	----
Total	40,329	580	1.4	71	12.8	47.2

H-37

HB:ht

2

It should be noted that St. Alban's Church submitted a membership map which listed communicants only. This would of course, reduce the figures given for parish membership. However, the addition of the baptized who are not communicants in the parish would not raise the percentages in the census tracts to any appreciable degree. St. Alban's Church has a very low proportion of the Episcopal population in the area, and does not have as many as 50% percent of the parish membership in this parish area. In the tracts of the arbitrarily assigned parish area, there is only one other Episcopal Church, All Saints', Crescentville.

The following table gives information concerning the percentages of the population 14 years of age and under, the percentage 65 years of age and older, and the median age for men and women in the arbitrarily assigned parish area:

CENSUS TRACT	POPULATION		%	%	MED.	
	1950	1960	14 & UNDER	65 & OVER	M	AGE F
42-B		10,381	20.8	16.0	38.8	43.4
42-A		6,082	25.4	10.2	34.9	37.6
42-C		4,693	19.3	19.9	43.2	47.9
42-D		2,268	20.4	16.8	40.0	44.2
42-E		7,168	23.1	15.4	35.4	40.5
50-A		4,763	32.4	4.3	30.5	28.6
50-B		2,563	21.8	12.0	39.6	42.8
50-O		2,411	21.5	12.7	39.3	41.1

In the City of Philadelphia, the percentage of the population 14 years of age and under was 26.5% and the percentage 65 years of age and older was 10.4%. The median age for men in the city is 32.1 years, and the median age for women was 34.6 years in 1960. Except for Census Tract 50-A, all of the tracts in the arbitrarily assigned parish area show higher age levels than that for the city as a whole. These statistics would indicate that there is perhaps a growing ministry to senior

PH-37
HB:ht
3

citizens in the area.

The following table gives information concerning the education of adults 25 years of age and over in the parish area:

CENSUS TRACT	ED. OF ADULTS 25 YRS. OF AGE & OVER			MEDIAN ED.
	% H.S.GRAD.	% COLL. 1-3 YRS.	% COLL. GRAD.	
42-B	23.6	3.3	3.5	9.2
42-A	24.8	5.4	3.1	9.9
42-C	23.9	7.6	6.1	10.4
42-D	26.4	3.2	2.3	9.5
42-E	22.2	4.3	2.5	9.5
50-A	41.4	9.6	11.0	12.3
50-B	28.4	8.4	5.2	11.0
50-O	27.4	12.4	22.5	12.4

In the City of Philadelphia, 20% of the population was of high school graduates in 1960, 5.1% had from one to three years of college, and 5.1% were college graduates. The median education level in Philadelphia in 1960 was 9.6%. The educational level of adults in the arbitrarily assigned parish area tends to be somewhat higher than this overall, and in Census Tracts 50-A, 50-B and 50-O, the educational levels are well above the average for the city.

The following table gives information concerning the numbers and percentages of the non-white population in the area:

H-37
HB:ht
4

CENSUS TRACT	NON-WHITE POPULATION		% NON-WHITE
	1950	1960	
42-B		3	0.03
42-A		6	0.1
42-C		2	0.04
42-D		4	0.2
42-E		3	0.04
50-A		0	----
50-B		6	0.2
50-O		19	0,8
Total		93	0.1

In the City of Philadelphia, the non-white percentage of the population amounted to 26.7%. In St. Alban's parish area, the number of non-whites is so low that it would be unimportant for analysis here.

The following table gives information concerning the percentage of the population five years of age and over in 1960 living in the same residence as in 1955:

CENSUS TRACT	RESIDENCE 1960 SAME AS 1955 %
42-B	71.8
42-A	71.3
42-C	72.0
42-D	73.6
42-E	72.2
50-A	43.9
50-B	69.1
50-O	61.5

H-37

HB:ht

5

In the City of Philadelphia, 60% of the persons five years of age and older in 1960 occupied the same residence as they did in 1955. Except for Census Tract 50-A, the population in the arbitrarily assigned parish area showed considerably more stability than the city as a whole.

H-37
HB:ht
6

THE CHURCH PROGRAM

Since St. Alban's Church submitted no Church Self-Study Form, it is not possible to analyze the church's program in this report.

PH-37

HB:ht

7

REPORTED MEMBERSHIP FROM MAPS

The membership maps submitted by St. Alban's Church located communicants only. It should be noted that while information on the map suggested that 159 persons were located in this manner, only 150 could be found after close inspection. The complete distribution of the membership of St. Alban's is given on the table on the following page:

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ST ALBANS SECOND & TAB

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PH-37

HB:ht

8

REPORTED MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL DATA FROM JOURNALS

Beteen 1950 and 1960, the population of Philadelphia decreased by 3.3%. During this period, the baptized membership of St. Alban's Church increased by 3.9%. The following chart gives information concerning the changes in membership status for St. Alban's Church for selected time periods:

<u>MEMBERSHIP STATUS</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>		
	1950-60	1955-60	1960-63
Baptized Members	3.9	-14.0	-7.9
Communicants	-1.0	-16.7	-3.4
Church School	0	22.6	-4.2

Churches in the Olney-Oaklane area had comparative statistics as follows:

<u>MEMBERSHIP STATUS</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>		
	1950-60	1955-60	1960-63
Baptized Members	-13.3	-5.2	-10.4
Communicants	- 5.6	0.2	-12.4
Church School	9.5	-1.5	1.2

In the City of Philadelphia the statistical pattern is as follows:

<u>MEMBERSHIP STATUS</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>		
	1950-60	1955-60	1960-63
Baptized Members	-4.8	-5.7	-7.7
Communicants	-11.3	-9.0	-3.5
Church School	1.3	-3.8	-6.6

The Diocese of Pennsylvania had changes in membership status as follows:

PH-37

HB:ht

9

MEMBERSHIP STATUS	% CHANGE		
	1950-60	1955-60	1960-63
Baptized Members	19.9	5.4	-2.1
Communicants	11.4	3.8	1.5
Church School	41.8	17.7	-3.8

While St. Alban's Church appears to be losing strength along with other churches in this general area, it does not appear to be losing quite as rapidly. Part of the St. Alban's decline can be accounted for because of the way the statistics had to be gathered in 1962 and 1963, when there was no reported baptized membership in the Diocesan Journals. In this case, the communicant figure was used.

Between 1961 and 1963, inclusive, the parish of St. Alban's had 20 baptisms and 17 confirmations. The average ratio of baptisms to the communicant strength in this period was 3.2% and the average ratio of confirmations to the communicant strength was 2.8%. In the Olney-Oaklane area, these figures were 2.8% and 2.9% respectively. And in the City of Philadelphia the statistics were 3.5% and 3.4% respectively. In the Diocese of Pennsylvania, the comparable figures were 3.9% and 4.1% respectively. It is generally considered necessary to have percentages of 5% in both categories in order to maintain a level church membership, and to have statistics above 5% to insure future church growth.

Between 1961 and 1963, inclusive, the total reported expenditures in St. Alban's parish were \$38,080.00, of which \$1,664.00, or 4.4%, went for purposes outside of the parish. The ratio for churches in the Olney-Oaklane area was 12.5% and for Episcopal churches in Philadelphia the ratio was 11.3%. In the Diocese of Pennsylvania the ratio of total reported expenditures to extra-parochial expenditures was 14.2%.

In St. Alban's Church, the average per communicant expenditure per year between 1961 and 1963 was \$61.82, of which \$2.72 went for purposes outside of the parish. In Episcopal

PH-37
HB:ht
10

churches in the Olney-Oaklane area, the comparable figures were \$53.96 and \$6.77 respectively, and in the City of Philadelphia these figures were \$88.66 and \$10.02 respectively. Churches in the Diocese of Pennsylvania had average expenditures per communicant in this three-year period of \$73.71 per year, of which \$10.45 went for purposes outside the parish. It would appear that St. Alban's Church has an exceptionally low missionary giving commitment, both in the expenditures per communicant figure and in the percentage of the expenditures that goes for purposes outside of the parish.

VITAL STATISTICS

 PARISH ST. ALBAN
 COUNTY PHILADELPHIA

 TOWN OLNEY
 DIOCESE PENNSYLVANIA

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962	1963
Baptized Members	* 245	* 201	* 207	250	215	219	* 207	* 198
Communicants	245	201	207	246	205	211	207	198
Church School	40	25	-	31	24	28	30	23
Baptisms	6	8	3	4	6	8	6	6
Percentage of Communicants	2.4	4.0	1.4	1.6	2.9	3.8	2.9	3.0
Confirmations	8	-	9	9	-	16	1	-
Percentage of Communicants	3.3	-	4.3	3.7	-	7.6	0.5	-
Parochial Expenditures 1	4,799	4,669	5,554	7,777	8,872	9,017	8,108	8,254
Special Par. Expenditures 2	850	1,425	1,816	1,373	6,770	2,301	5800	2936
Extra-parochial Expenditures 3	601	821	907	642	291	523	600	541
Total Reported Expenditures	6,250	6,915	8,277	9,792	15,933	11,841	14,508	11,731
Expenditures per Communicant	25.51	34.40	39.99	39.80	77.72	56.12	70.09	59.25
Extra-parochial Expenditures per Communicant	2.45	4.08	4.38	2.61	1.42	2.48	2.90	2.73

* GORFS ESTIMATE (NR)

- 1 Includes clergy salary, current expense, pension premium, and Diocesan assessment.
- 2 Special parish purposes, including capital expenditures.
- 3 Includes Church's Program, special outside.

PH-37

HB:ht

11

DATA ON THE CONGREGATION

The Episcopal Census submitted by St. Alban's Church included too small a percentage in the reported baptized membership category to provide an accurate statistical picture. It would appear that a sizeable proportion of the congregation of the congregation is among persons over 40 years of age.

In reviewing the occupation of persons who are members of St. Alban's Church, those signifying their occupation to be clerical workers is most numerous.

Of those reporting their length of membership in this congregation, well over 50% have been members for less than 15 years. One-third, however, have been members for 30 or more years.

Of the families reporting on distance from the church, 12 out of 22 live less than a mile from the church, and 13 out of 20 can get to church in less than 20 minutes. Out of 21 families reporting, 14 live in single-family dwellings and four in duplex apartments. Of 18 families reporting, seven families live in homes built in the 20's, five in homes built in the 50's, and four live in homes built between 1900 and 1919. The remaining families live in homes built in the 40's and the 30's.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH, Olney, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Since St. Alban's Church failed to submit a Church Self-Study Form or a complete census, it is not possible to make any recommendations at the present time. Should St. Alban's Church desire to complete its Study, the General Division of Research and Field Study would be willing to process it, as time permits.

PH-37

HB/sk

1